Depot Town Rag

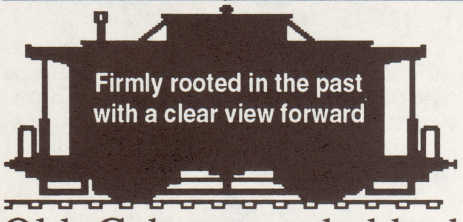
Volume 16, Number 8 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

100% FREE
Rag Content
August 1993

- Toy Train Show
- Great Train Race down under
- *Home Tour announced*
- No progress at depot
- **RR terms of 1800's**

and other strictly local stuff. . . .



Old Caboose rehabbed with DDA funds; ready for private rentals again

Probably the most-watched project in Depot Town this summer has been the rehabilitation of the century-old Grand Trunk caboose which serves as the Depot Town Association's home base.

Scott Claassen, owner of the Follett House next door, was awarded the contract for the project by the Depot Town Downtown Development Authority and has been lovingly replacing the original woodwork on the structure since early June. With occasional breaks at the Daily Grind, of which he is a part owner, Claassen has paid great attention to detail in the reconstruction of the cupola and the replacement of the vertical siding.

By August's Heritage Festival, the old caboose in Depot Town will again be available for rental for private parties, meetings, small dinner parties and other events which require a unique and intimate setting.

In the past, the caboose has been used for children's birthday parties, showers, candlelight dinners, and even a wedding!

Although the team track on which it sits is no longer connected to the main Conrail/Amtrak line, if you open the north door under the cupola, you can see 'clear down the tracks' and take in the full panorama of passing trains' whistles, bells, rumbles and shakings.

It may not be attached to the rolling stock any more, but it's as close as you can get to the real thing! For rental information, call 483-4256.

The Heritage Jazz Competition

Authentic, Fun & Free
August 20, 21, 22
down in Depot Town!

"Down by the station" a popular place in Ypsi since1838

American history can be traced from Ypsilanti/Depot Town's rise and fall patterns

This place wasn't always called Depot Town. In newspaper accounts of the nineteenth century, comings and goings at Ypsilanti were characterized as "at the depot" and every railroad town in America enjoyed signalling their departures and arrivals from its most significant architectural structure: the depot.

In his centennial history, *The Story of Ypsilanti,* Harvey C. Colburn writes, "the outstanding event of importance in the thirties was the coming of the railroad to Ypsilanti." Several unsuccessful attempts were made before the first train arrived in 1838.

When the first train came to town, every citizen knew their town's success had arrived with it and their focus of commerical activity and innovation grew alongside the tracks from the depot to the railyards. Ypsilanti's growth had shifted from the Sauk Trail to the river to the railroad.

"The path of the railroad did not approach the center of the original village, probably because of the shape of the land. The decision was made to locate the depot east of the river. It seems likely that this choice was influenced by the presence of Norris' saw mill, which would supply fuel for the wood burning locomotives and ties for railroad construction." [*Depot Town Study*, 1976]

Ypsilanti served as a prototypical rail-centered town with the full complement of related paraphernalia: railyard, freighthouse, roundhouse, telegrapher's office, stockyards, hobo jungle, water tank and a depot. And what a depot it was, with a soaring Victorian tower, covered walkways to the waiting trains - and gardens! Of all the stops along the Michigan Central line from Detroit to Chicago, Ypsilanti was famed - and defamed - for its ostentatious gardens.

The MCRR depot was so dedicated to obscene displays of horticulture that the largest portion of the north end of the building was a giant greenhouse used to force plants all winter so they might be placed into full display early in the spring as gardeners arranged the blossoms into patterns representing subjects as diverse as "a suspension bridge over Niagara Falls, a big eagle, the monument to the battleship Maine, and other masterpieces ... (which) were photographed for eastern papers and magazines." [*Ypsilanti Daily Press*, 10/4/43]

"Throughout its history, the fortunes of Depot Town ran parallel with those of the railroad. Both had their heyday in the second half of the nineteenth and early years of this century. Most of the structures which make up Depot Town today were built in a short span following mid-century. Their concentration at the depot end of Cross Street, thinning out toward the river, reflects the central role played by the railroad."

"Just as they had risen together to prominence, so did the railroad and Depot Town share in decline. The twentieth century brought with it new rivals for railroads, in automobiles and other modern forms of transportation. Activity in Depot Town decreased; competition from the city's Michigan Avenue business district was heightened. More recently, shopping centers and malls have come to pose difficult competition for neighborhood businesses." (*Depot Town Study*, 1976]

The last two decades have seen what contemporary dailies now call a 'renaissance' down by the old railroad station in Ypsilanti with musical events, street activities, festivals and unique shops and businesses thriving in this ancient environment. Today's critics warn us that only our success will get in the way of the future.

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation
presents the

sixteenth annual ypsilanti historic home tour

sunday, august 22, 1993
12:00 noon to 5:00 pm

tickets:	*in advance*	*after august 19th*
children	$3.00	$4.00
adults	$6.00	$7.00
seniors	$5.00	$6.00

Advance tickets are available at the following locations:

Ypsilanti:
- Norton's Florists
- Materials Unlimited

In Depot Town:
- Hon's Flowers & Gifts

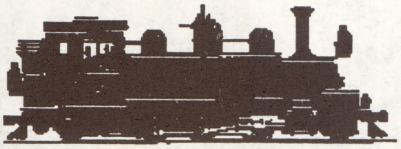
Ann Arbor:
- John Leidy Shops, Inc.
- Partners In Wine at the South Main Market

After August 19th, tickets will be available at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival.

Ypsilanti's FARMERS' MARKET

Freighthouse
Toy Train Show
Saturday and Sunday
August 21 & 22

Market Hours:
Wednesday and Saturday 7am - 3pm
Open year 'round
in the railroad freighthouse
Ample Free Parking
Live music every Saturday am
For information: 483-1480



A Great Train Race half a world away

Our train tracks don't run to Australia, but our runners do. A large promotional envelope was mailed from outside Melbourne, Australia, in April addressed to "The Great Train Race Committee, Depot Town Ypsilanti, Michigan, United States of America." It arrived the first week of July. Letters, entry forms and slick tourist promotion brochures touted an area in Australia much in the same manner that we constantly promote Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town.

Depot Town runners were happy to receive such enthusiastic information about so familiar a theme and say 'G'day' to their down under counterparts. All agree that theirs sounds like a fair dinkum event. [Fair Dinkum: *Colloq. adj.* 1: true, genuine, dinkum: "Is this race fair dinkum?" - *interj.* 2: assertion of truth or genuineness "It's true, mate, it's a fair dinkum event for fun runners." 3: Come have a fair dinkum great time in Depot Town with us on August 22 when we have our own Great Train Race.

Dear Great Train Race Organizers:

I am a fun runner and on the organization committee of the Puffing Billy Preservation Societies Great Train Race. A few weeks ago, while competing in a local community fun run, I was excited to meet another fun runner from America, who was wearing one of your 1991 Great Train Race "T" shirts.

Last weekend we held another very successful G.T.R. in beautiful autumn weather through Melbourne's nearby very scenic Dendenong Ranges. About 1700 runners completed the course and six trains in each direction moved about 4500 passengers.

Through the uniqueness of the event and the love of Puffing Billy, the run was shown on 4 local evening T.V. news services. I have enclosed a section of information that shows in detail, the workings of our run ie: "P.B.G.T.R." Entry Form, Information for Runners, Background Information, Workforce Rosters and a special Timetable for the day.

As we have a Members' Magazine "Narrow Gauge" I would be more excited to receive from Steam Town, an article, or information and photos of your Great Train Race which we could publish in a forth coming issue.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Yours faithfully, Kevin Mathisen
Old Monbulk Road, (P.O.Box 451)
Belgrave, Victoria 3160, Australia

Aside from autumn in April

other differences were noted in our two communities of runners through an excellent glossy publication from their version of Ypsilanti's own Visitors and Convention Bureau. In a slicker titled "Spend time in the Yarra Valley & Dandenong Ranges - For the best that nature has to offer - only an hour from Melbourne," they invite us to see the "rolling green pastures and vineyards of the Valley, the forests and the ferny gullies." Special attractions include "strolling through paddocks of kangaroos and wallabies, have emus and wood ducks cross your path and see koalas and platypus."

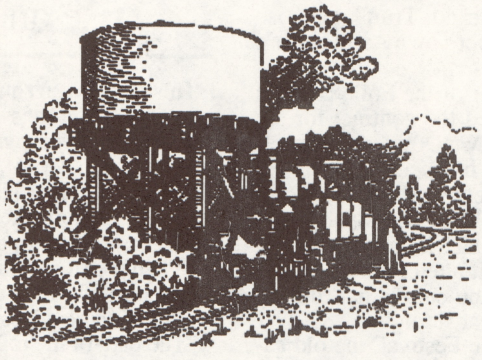
One section puzzles most Statesiders: "The world of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie comes to life at the award winning Gamnut Village set in the gardens of Australflora in Montrose."

[We thought that was illegal. -ed]

What is Puffing Billy?

"Owned and operated by the Emerald Tourist Railway Board, Puffing Billy is a genuine relic of our more leisurely days. An historic steam train still running regularly in the mountain district it was built to serve at the turn of the century.

"Puffing Billy is the real thing ... not re-created history. The railway is the sole survivor of four experimental narrow gauge lines used to develop rural areas in the early 1900s. Only 40km from the city of Melbourne, Puffing Billy is now a major tourist attraction, its operation depending almost entirely on a large group of dedicated volunteers.



"Take yourself, and your family or friends, on a sentimental journey along this 13km operating museum. Enjoy the mountain scenery and panoramic views which pass your carriage window. At Lakeside, the terminus of the railway inside the beautiful Emerald Lake Reserve, you may stop over for a few happy hours bushwalking, swimming or just relaxing in the peaceful country setting, or visit Australia's largest model railway display, near the Puffing Billy station."

Australia's Great Train Race

Also celebrating its twelfth annual fun run, theirs promises to be Australia's' most unique and challenging fun run. "Race against Puffing Billy and see if you can beat Victoria's world famous veteran steam train." Runners and their families "have a relaxing ride back to Belgrave ... on one of the Puffing Billy return trains."

Depot Town's parallel event

Celebrating its thirteenth year this August 22nd, Depot Town's Great Train Race is expected to draw 400 runners for the Sunday morning run. $12 entry fee includes a commemorative T-shirt and rises to $15 after August 13. Participants assemble at 6:30 with the race beginning at 8:10 a.m. The course is mostly through country, encompassing both a 5 Km open run/walk and a 10 Km open run.

Entries and checks may be mailed to the "The Great Train Race," 400 Market Place, Ypsi MI 48198.

DEPOT TOWN

Newest Depot Town T-shirt available at Jazz Competition tent

John Delcamp wore his 1980 Depot Town/ Stroh's T-shirt to the showing of the Budweiser Clydedales down here in June and some folks still treasure their even-older "Save the Caboose" T-shirt. Just about any local booster has a drawer full of the new icons of history: the fundraising T-shirt.

This month marks the printing of the newest local shirt with one of the more popular recent slogans of the block: the same design that welcomes travelers from the west side as they survey our skyline and see the giant "Depot Town - Welcome" sign on the wall of the Follett House. That railroad/caboose logo was borrowed from the "Participating Merchant" decal which still graces many of the district's shops.

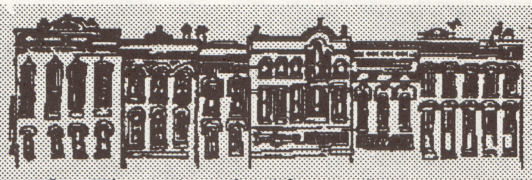
Sixteenth annual home tour to feature Depot Town property:

Seven properties will be on this year's tour. Among them will be:

- An 1865 Italianate Commercial Style building including an elegant 3000 square foot penthouse apartment with restored ballroom, as well as two other unique apartments.
- The Ladies Literary Club, built in 1842, an excellent example of the Greek Revival style.
- The Wilkinson-Lewis House, a graceful Italiante Style home, built in 1878.
- Pease Auditorium, buillt in 1941 on the campus of EMU and currently undergoing major restoration and renovation.

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation, sponsors of the tour, and founded in 1974, is dedicated to the idea that one of Ypsilanti's greatest resources is its wealth of historic architecture. The annual Historic Home Tour is its major fund raising event. See their ad on page two.

Dateline: Depot Town:



A Neighborhood Forgotten by Time (and Life and Newsweek)

Sidetrack's expansion anticipated

Not easily 'sidetracked' from their constant creativity, the district's track-side bar and grill is beginning to fulminate over what to do with their space immediately west of their business: the former home of Depot Exchange Antiques. Linda French, a partner in both ventures, says they're still wondering if they'll expand to include jazz or comedy - or both. Or maybe even something more fun.

Last year's development of their outdoor patio turned an unusual site into one of the most charming sitting spaces in the industry - and their new facade colors indicate their creativity will not stop there. Warren Lewis was the color consultant for their new exterior, and neighbors say it's no wonder it turned out so well; he's one of the most highly talented interior designers in the region. As with his own home, he's good with exteriors, too.

Meanwhile, Sidetrack's menu still boasts the hamburgers *Detroit Monthly Magazine* raved about and their bar serves eight - count 'em - eight different draught beers. A recent promotion encouraged a 'trip around Michigan' with a variety of home-state brews featured.

As the Trackers continue their development, they promise to bring more fresh ideas into the perpetual rebirth of the district.

Remington-Walker moves to larger space in Follett House

Victoriana will again rule the block from the historic Follett House when Midge Prybyla and Sandy Hoag move their design studio a few doors west to their new address after Heritage Festival.

"We will open our Christmas line in the new spot during invitational events for Heritage Fest - and complete the move to the larger spot in September," says Sandy Hoag. She and Midge describe their first year in business as a highly successful one, with their greatest problem being the need for still more space for their elegant designs.

All are encouraged to sign the guest book in their studio this month -- in order to be invited to a grand Grand Opening of the new lines.

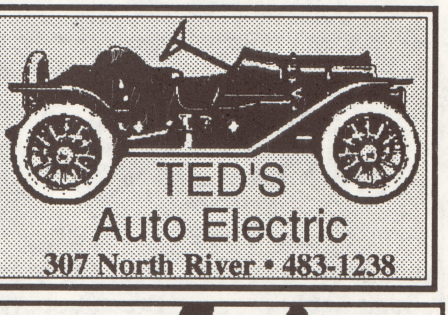
Artisan Depot opens in fall

Several phases of the rebirth of the district have hinted at the existence of an artists' colony, but the noble practicality of the area never lets anyone get away with anything so highfalutin' and grand.

With the opening of Karen Brenner's Artistan Depot in Reminton-Walker's former address this fall, the tradition of a gallery of artists' recent works will continue a long and healthy part of the culture that flourishes in the upstairs studios and in the coffee shops below.

The past generation has seen great continuity of the district being a most appropriate place for painters, sculptors, architects, printmakers, jewelers and even a concert pianist. Still, there's a healthy balance of furniture refinishers and auto repair tradesmen to keep the atmosphere well balanced with its feet on the ground. There's a long tradition of dynamic coexistence among the district's artisans and they often co-mingle at the several galleries that have sprung up over the years.

The most recent incarnation is Karen Brenner's gallery which is expected sometime this fall. Watch for another opportunity for gallery shows and gala openings on the block.



Ad Art
313-483-4256
517-592-8708
Design and Layout
Typeset for ads, brochures, books, manuscripts, resumés, catalogues.
Complete production, graphics, consulting

The O'Dell Chiropractic Clinic
324 Miles Street • Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
1/4 mile east of Depot Town
at Cross and Miles Street
Experience necessary to help you
with your spine and nervous system problems
relating to Vertebral Subluxation.
• When you're in our hands, you're in good hands •
Call us today - 313-485-2120

Depot Town Association, Inc., 15 July 1993

DTA: Firmly rooted in the past - with a clear view forward!

The Association again met at J&R Trading Post and Judi Monaghan chaired the meeting in the president's absence.

June's minutes were approved as published.

The treasury holds more than $8000 with increases in our annual property liability insurance paid this month. Although invoices have been mailed, $665 is still outstanding on Frog Island program book ads.

Depot Town Downtown Development Authority:

- Paul Fetters reported the Caboose will be completed renovated by the end of the month. There has been a problem replacing the end beam.
- A lease for the south side parking lot is nearly ready for the agreement of all involved parties.
- Depot owners have been notified by DDA and the City about the Scouts' proposal for renovation of that structure. A reply is expected soon.

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival:

- Train Show will be in the Freighthouse, with Farmers' Market vendors situated on the north end and on the dock.
- Heritage Jazz Competition tent will be centered on the Freighthouse and into the Market Plaza.

Depot Town Antique Engine Club's Early Engine Expo has been placed on Frog Island this year

Rag Report:

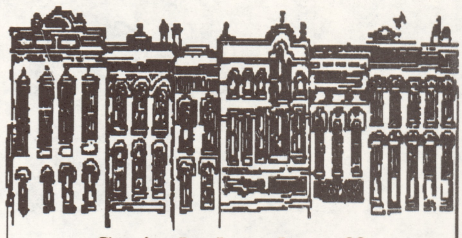
August's issue will focus on one third of the Festival theme - trains. Several new/old sponsors are back this month. September's issue will focus on historical relationships with the Normal School/EMU and will introduce the district through the EMU Parents' Organization. An extra run of the issue will be circulated on campus and at the Radisson Resort to supplant the now-expired brochures. Any business wishing to announce special offers must contact the editor by the third Thursday of August.

Kiosk update has been postponed until after the August Shuffle - then we'll decide who's going to be where for the rest of the year and bring those little signs up to date.

August's DTA meeting would conflict with the Heritage Festival kickoff, and will meet, instead, on the second Thursday: 7:30 p.m. at the Old Caboose, Thursday, 12 August 1993.

Annual DTA election is at the September meeting. President elect Judi Monaghan will convene a committee to seek nominations for President elect, Secretary and Treasurer.

Thanks to Gerry Tillman for offering her shop for DTA meetings while the caboose has been undergoing renovation and good luck in her next venture at the Huron Trade Center.



Strictly local stuff:
August1993

Depot Towners are invited to participate in any or all of the following activities for the good of this old commercial district:

Depot Town Association
7:30 p.m. Thursday, 12th
at the Old Caboose

Depot Town Antique Engine Club
7:30 pm Thursday, 26th
at the Freighthouse

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

-Tom Dodd, editor

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
David Blackmer, president
c/o The Old Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Announcing: A special 'Town & Gown' issue of *The Depot Town Rag* in September

Sponsors/advertisers may wish to place 'specials' of particular interest EMU's parents and students that month.

Extra copies distributed on campus and at Radisson Resort

Watch for a flyer with information - or call the editor at 482-6371.

gifts cards antiques collectibles

Old original 78-45-33 rpm Records

J & R Trading Post

General Store & Antique Mall
19 E. Cross Street
483-5870
Watch for us at the Huron Trade Center soon!

Designs On You & Treasures

- Boutique items
- Alterations
- Custom clothing
- Quality designer resale

Brenda Knox, owner

Planning a Fund Raiser?! Let us Plan and Organize a Fashion Show for You!

Also available: "The Traveling Boutique," ...a private showing of high fashion jewelry & apparel Your place or ours

Image consultant: Carolyn Malone

27 East Cross • 482-2012
Tuesday - Friday 10 - 5:30 Saturdays 10-4:30

Hansen's
STANDARD PRINTING

Stop in and see us during the
Ypsilanti Heritage Festival

35 E. Cross Street
Depot Town
Ypsilanti, Michigan
(313) 483-0339

Hottest little corner bar & grill in town!

Rated best burgers!
- Detroit Monthly Magazine

SIDETRACK Bar & Grill

Ypsilanti's Hottest Bar!
56 E. Cross • 483-1035

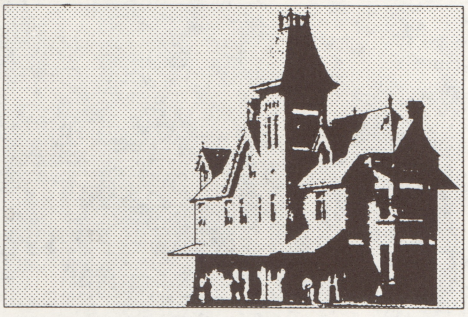
- 8 beers on draught
- Outside courtyard seating overlooking historic Depot Town railroad crossing

DAILY GRIND

COFFEE HOUSE

- Cappuccino
- Espresso
- Flavored Coffee
- Pastries
- Muffins
- Cocoa-cino
- Scones
- Cheesecake
- Bottled Water

21 East Cross Street **482-0440**
Mon - Sat 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sun - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Everyday Life in Depot Town in the nineteenth century

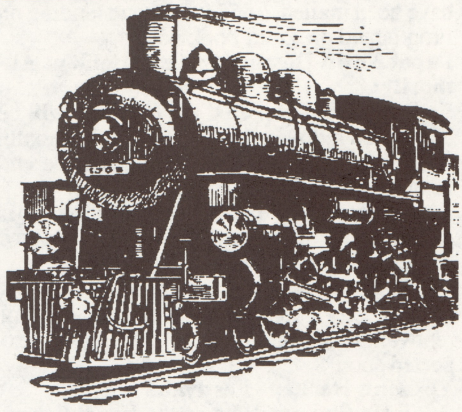
Rail brought a new culture to Ypsilanti

The early nineteenth-century citizen was as electrified by the sight of a train rumbling down a track as we might be by the shuttle soaring off into space. "I saw today for the first time a Rail Way Car," wrote Christopher Baldwin in 1835. "What an object of wonder! How marvelous it is in every particular. It appears like a thing of life . . . . I cannot describe the strange sensation produced on seeing the train of cars come up. And when I started in them . . . it seemed like a dream."

Despite the wonder of it all, early trains subjected passengers to sundry discomforts. Along with a pervasive unease over potential derailments and boiler explosions, passengers complained about the racket the cars made over the tracks and of the ashes and cinders that constantly rained on them from the locomotives' smokestacks. One woman found thirteen holes burned in her gown from the engine's relentless belching of sparks. Others registered horror over the number of livestock being run down and at the potential for pedestrian accidents at railway crossings.

Still, there was no stopping the forward progress of the railroad. Even before midcentury, trains rattled along at speeds of twenty miles per hour — twice as fast as the stagecoaches that came in from Detroit and Dearborn, four times as fast as the canal boats that arrived from the Erie Canal by way of Lake Erie. To the entrepreneur that meant one thing: profit.

The profit-minded Americans wasted no time in laying down track. In 1835 but 700 miles of rail stretched across the country and Ypsilanti was as far west as you could travel. That grew to 9,000 miles by 1850 and to over 30,000 by 1860. In 1890, America was across-stitched with more than 200,000 miles of track. By then, transcontinental train travel had already shed its novelty image and had, in fact, become as natural as a stroll down the lane.



Ypsi semantics can get even more localized with such words or phrases as...

... alibi, sidetracked, high ball, team track, house track, yard, mainline, depot gardens, signal tower, crossing gate, and whistle. In another generation these terms could fade from usage completely.

Next month: 19th century street vendors

Some common terms from early 1800's when the Michigan Central tracks reached Ypsilanti's Depot Town:

Baggage smashers: Common nickname from midcentury on for baggage handlers who, according to passenger reports, "treated each piece of baggage as if they owed it a personal grudge."

Brigades of cars: The original name given to a train. On August 27, 1830, the Baltimore and Ohio used the phrase "train of cars" in an advertisement, and the name struck.

Butch: Also known as a train butch or a news butch. Peddlers, usually young men, who sold newspapers, magazines, dime novels, peanuts, cigars, sandwiches, and so forth. Horatio Alger featured train butches in some of his novels and Thomas Edison worked as a butch between Port Huron and Detroit. Later bastardized as 'candy butcher' selling goods before a burlesque show opened.

Conductor: The director, guard and ticket-taker on a passenger train. The 'business manager' of a freight train.

Deadhead: A nonpaying passenger. As a verb, to let someone ride for free. Sometimes referring to an empty car returning without paying passengers to another point on the line.

Dining car: Introduced in 1863 on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore lines, a restaurant car comprised an eating bar and a simple steambox in which precooked food was kept warm.

Fireman: One who threw wood or shoveled coal into the firebox of a locomotive. Early trains burned forty to two hundred pounds of coal per mile, and a good fireman could move more than two tons of coal in less than thirty minutes.

Full chisel: Term sometimes used to describe the speed of a lcomotive, specifically full tilt.

Heating: Most of the early trains were heated by woodstoves at the end or in the middle of each car. Passengers often complained of being too hot or too cold, depending on where they sat in relation to the stove.

Hotel car: A Pullman dining and/or sleeping car.

Ladies' cars: Cars in which women could ride in comfort and escape the smoking, spitting and flirting of the male passengers. Male companions could also ride in these cars.

Lightning express: Any very fast train.

Parlor car: An upscale car funished with comfortable chairs, sofas, etc.

Porter: Employed in Pullman cars and almost exclusively Negro, sometimes nicknamed George, after George Pullman. Porters made up beds, stowed luggage, awakened passengers, etc., and were generally tipped by the passengers.

Refreshment saloons: Dining stations located along the towns on a railway line. They were established by the railroads and widely used before the advent of the dining car. The stops at these stations were sometimgs as brief as fifteen minutes, requriing passengers to bolt their food and run. The Great Northern Hotel served in this capacity, but was soon demolished to continue the line west to Ann Arbor. Its bricks were used in the construction of the Thompson Block on North River Street. Since that time, privately owned eateries have flourished in the depot district of Ypsilanti.

Roundhouse: A circular building used for housing and switching locomotives. Ypsilanti's rail and stock yard was to the east of River Street, south of Cross, near Lincoln Street.

Sleeping Car: A few crude sleeping cars were in use by the 1840s, but the definitive models were designed by the Wagner Palace Car Company and by George Pullman in the 1860s.

Speed of trains: Throughout most of the century, trains traveled at twenty to thirty miles per our; the fastest went forty.

Spotter: In the second half of the century, a railway detective who observed conductors to prevent them from selling tickets directly to passengers and pocketing the fares, a common practice of the 1880s and 1890s.

Telegrapher: A vital member of the crew. He carried a device called a box relay, which could be attached to the telegraph line that ran along the tracks to call for help in the event of derailments, breakdowns, robberies, etc. Telegraphers usually had little to do during a trip and so they often doubled as baggage handlers.

Vestibule: Introduced on Pullman cars in 1886, an elastic diaphragm that enclosed each of the open spaces between cars. Vestibules shut out the cold and the rain and made it safer to move from one car to another.

Zulu cars: Railroad passenger cars with hardback seating and unupholsterd sleeping facilities for carrying immigrants to the West in the last quarter of the century. There is some speculation that the hard slats made long-lasting impressions on the passengers' skin - something like napping on a chennile beadspread, only harder - and gave the impression of Zulu-like tattoos until long after their journey.

REMINGTON-WALKER
Design Associates
Sign our register for a private invitation to the opening of our 1993 Christmas Show
Studio Hours:
Friday 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. -5 p.m.
23 E. Cross
495-2164

A Depot Town SAMPLER

Familiar faces; familiar phrases

When you encourage people to get out on the sidewalks and smile into each other faces or to talk to folks at the next table - whether they already know each other or not - you're bound to hear some things you like and some that you don't. Here's a collection of often-heard phrases from this block in the last twenty years:

"My grandpa used to work for the railroad."

"That new signal tower didn't look anything like that when I was a kid down here."

"Nobody takes the trains anymore."

"This place reminds me of what it used to be like before the malls were built out on the Interstate highways."

"My grandmother used to have one just like that -- but we threw it away."

"That's just like the car my dad used to drive when I was a kid."

" That's just like the car I learned to drive in."

"That's just like the car that we drove on our honeymoon thirty (forty? fifty?) years ago."

"That's just like the car our kid wants."

"They know what we always order here. In fact, the waitress/waiter knows our name."

"There's nothing like this out at the mall."

"Why, this is just like (SoHo, Old Town, Key West, how Ann Arbor used to be, ad infinitum)." No one seems to compare this to what Ann Arbor's like today.

"This place is so friendly."

"We love the musical events all year 'round."

"Let's go wave at the trains... feed the ducks ... listen to the band ... watch the parade... "

"We've been coming down here since ..."

"My childhood chums and I actually named Frog Island back in ..."

" I really grew up in ------ but I feel like I've lived here all my life!"

"Even Walt Disney's copies don't look as real as Ypsilanti's Depot Town.

"You're right; this place looks just like this year's Heritage Festival poster -- or those old ads in National Geographic. I didn't think there was anything this *real* left in the country any more."

Teachers Shop
& LEARNING CENTER, LTD.
All materials for Classroom & Curricula
Your K12 CONNECTION
(313) 482-6373
16 E. Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Depot Doo
Fine Design in Hair Style
25 East Cross • 484-3045

Ike's Depot
483-6300
BARBERSHOP
40 East Cross

Hon's
Flowers & Fancies
46 East Cross
482-2124

Baked On Automotive Finishes • Complete Collision Repair
CITY BODY EST. 1930
CARSTAR
20 E. Cross Street
482-4737 • 482-9353 • Fax: 482-0181
Scott Sobbry Bruce Sobbry

Licensed Insured
D.L. Church CONSTRUCTION
BUILDING & REMODELING
Reliable & Experienced
In All Phases of Residential Construction
Les Church • 105 Babbitt • Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(313) 483-1237

Freeman Bunting Insurance Agency
107 West Michigan Avenue
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Telephone: 482-4732
• Betty Campbell • Jim Campbell
• Nancy Petosky • Chuck Conklin
• Mary Lou Linke
Security through insurance since 1921

Cooking Encounter
11-3 Saturday
14 August
Samples:
Things you can do with zucchini!
Orientation: 2 pm
YPSI FOOD COOP
Sun. 12-5, M,T,Th, F 10-8 Wed. 10-9 Sat. 9-8
312 N. RIVER ST. 483-1520

Don't get your hair done just anywhere . . .
. . . get it done at
Richard Reid's Hair Station
50 E. Cross Street • 485-8228
in historic Depot Town
This is a non-smoking environment

Angela, Mary, Crystal, Joyce, Richard, Lynn